particularly in the tribal areas of Bihar with details thereof;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce mobile post office facilities in such areas after making survey of such areas; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) to (c) Postal facilities are being extended through opening of new post offices under Annual Plans. Special emphasis is given to remote, hilly and tribal areas.

1593 post offices are functioning in tribal areas of Bihar at present.

In the first two years of the Eighth Five Year Plan, 55 extra departmental branch post offices have been opened in tribal areas of Bihar.

There is no plan to provide mobile post offices in these areas.

Waiting List of telephone connections in Bihar

83. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many applications for telephone connections were pending in each district of Bihar as on 31st March, 1994 with district-wise details thereof;

(b) how many telephone connections are likely to be provided in each district during the current year; and

(c) by when Government propose to clear the entire backlog of telephone connections in the state?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Districtwise details is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below).

(b) and (c) The entire waiting list is likely to be cleared by March, 1995. The department has planned to provide about 35000 telephone connections in Bihar during the year 1994-95. The National Telecom. Policy 1994 envisages telephone on demand by 1.4.1997.

Statement

Districtwise detail of Waiting List as on 31-3-1994 *in Bihar is given as under* :

Sl. No.	Name of District	No. of Connections
1	2	3
1.	Hazaribagh	1065
2.	Chatra	17
3.	Giridih	137
4.	Dhabhua	221
5.	Garhwa	18
6.	Palamau	197
7.	Rohtas	777

1	2	3
8.	Muzaffarpur	1230
9.	Vaishali	984
10.	Sitamarhi	826
11.	Chapra	392
12.	Gopalganj	132
13.	Siwan	458
14.	East Champaran	446
15.	West Champaran	851
16.	Purnea	432
17.	Araria	01
18.	Kishanganj	14
19.	Saharsa	415
20.	Supaul	130
21.	Madhopura	122
22.	Gumla	143
23.	Lohardagga	92
24.	Ranchi	324
25.	Darbhanga	878
26.	Madhubani	605
27.	Samastipur	605
28.	Begusarai	448
29.	Khagaria	190
30.	Patna	4679
31.	Nalanda	457
32.	Dhanbad	1342
33.	Bokaro	1447
34.	Bhagalpur	1855
35.	Banka	03
36.	Monghyr	245
37.	Lakhisarai	240
38.	Dumka	215
39.	Deoghar	183
40.	Jamshedpur (Singhbhum East & Singhbhum West)	6546

1	2	3
41.	Arrah	1169
42.	Buxar	252
43.	Maya	2002
44.	Nawadah	183
45.	Jehanabad	460
46.	Aurangabad	673
47.	Sahebganj	000
48.	Godda	000
49.	Jamui	000
50.	Palur	000
51.	Katihar	256

Opening of Post offices in villages in Bihar

84. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many new post offices were opened in the villages of Bihar during the last three years with district-wise details there;

(b) how many post offices are likely to be opened in the villages of the state during the next three years;

(c) whether Government propose to provide one post office in every village of Bihar during Eighth Plan period; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The district-wise number of new post offices opened in the villages of Bihar during the last three years is given in the enclosed statement. (*See* below)

(b) During the remaining three years of the Eighth Five Year Plan, it is targetted to open 2400 extra departmental branch post offices in the country at rate of 800 per annum. The Circle-wise targets are finalised on year-to-year basis.

(c) and (d) There is no programme to provide one post office in every village of Bihar during the Eighth Plan period as the Government objective is to progressively extend the postal network to villages which satisfy the norms prescribed in accordance with the Government's policy within the resources available.

Statement

Details of number of post offices opened in the villages of Bihar during the last theee years district-wise

S. No.	Name of District	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
1.	Araria	1	..	1
2	Aurangabad	13	..	..